

10/975257
APPROVED 10 APR 2006

PATENT APPLICATION
Q94348

IN THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)

In re application of

Hitoshi AKIYAMA

Appln. No.: TBA

Confirmation No.: TBA

Group Art Unit: TBA

Filed: April 10, 2006

Examiner: TBA

For: TREAD STRUCTURE WITH HIGH TRACTION AND LOW VIBRATION

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 AND 1.98

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified), which the Examiner may deem material to the patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date; or (2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 35 U.S.C. §1.114 and, therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

APR 10 2006

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Q94348

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of an International Search Report (ISR) from the Japanese Patent Office (JPO) in a counterpart application (International Patent Application No. PCT/JP2004/014839 filed October 7, 2004) citing such documents, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of at least that portion of the ISR indicating the degree of relevance found by the JPO.

Applicant notes for the Examiner's convenience that U.S. Patent No. 5,337,816 (citation AA on the attached Form PTO/SB/08) corresponds to JP 6-50902 (citation AJ), as indicated by the JPO on the ISR appended hereto.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees (except the Issue/Publication Fees) to our Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any over-payments to said Deposit Account.

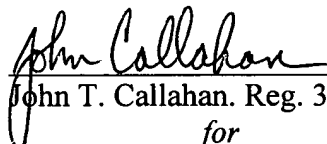
Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER


John T. Callahan, Reg. 32,607
for
Steven M. Gruskin, Reg. 36,818

Date: April 10, 2006

Substitute for Form PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/57257 TBA
				Confirmation Number	TBA
				Filing Date	April 10, 2006
				First Named Inventor	Hitoshi AKIYAMA
				Art Unit	TBA
Examiner Name	TBA				
Attorney Docket Number	Q94348				
Sheet	1	of	1		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
	AA	5,337,816	A	08-16-1994	Bonko, et al.
	AB				
	AC				
	AD				
	AE				
	AF				
	AG				
	AH				
	AI				

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
	AJ	JP	6-50902	U	07-12-1994	Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co.	No
	AK	JP	2000-025416	A	01-25-2000	Ohtsu Tire & Rubber Co., Ltd.	Abstract
	AL	JP	11-245624	A	09-14-1999	Komatsu Mfg. Co., Ltd.	Abstract
	AM	JP	58-152608	A	09-10-1983	Ohtsu Tire & Rubber Co., Ltd.	Abstract
	AN	JP	60-87304	A	03-29-1994	Sumitomo Rubber Industries, Ltd.	Abstract
	AO						
	AP						
	AQ						
	AR						
	AS						
	AT						
	AU						

NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶
	AV		
	AW		
	AX		
	AY		
	AZ		

Examiner Signature:		Date Considered:	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to indicate here if English language translation is attached.